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London, 17th July 1840.

GARRISON MSS.

Dear Sir,

Having accidentally seen a copy of the enclosed proof, concerning the Abolitionists of America, I felt a great desire that you should see it also, as it contains Statements, which I, with my limited means of information, consider, not only likely to be injurious, but also not quite consistent with the truth. It is intended for the "Eclectic Review" of next Month, a journal widely circulated among the most influential Dissenters in this Country, but which, as you will perceive from the tenor of this Article is far from being favorable to the pacific principles of which it is your honor to be the Advocate. I regret to say that the doctines of "thorough" Non-Resistance are very imperfectly understood in this country, & even our so called Peace Society is a vile affair, which blinds the eyes of thousands as to the real

nature & extent of the Commandment
"Resist not evil". It is founded I believe
on an opinion that man has no power over
the life of his fellow man, while they admit
their right to inflict on him any degree of
torture, short of death, which they may
think necessary for "the reformation of the
"Offender & the well being of Society". Of the
universal application of the principle "Be not
overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good",
the majority of the "Bacemen", I fear have not the
slightest conception. With regard to the subject
of "Woman's Rights", also (a question on which I
deeply sympatize with my American Brethren)
the state of things, as you doubtless know, is as
bad or worse, indeed so far do the Committee
of the British & F. A.S. Society carry their prejudice
on this matter that they refused even to
hear a letter addressed to them by "a Woman of
"England" on the subject. Now this is the reason
why I have ventured to trouble you with this.
I do believe that a good essay on 'Non-Resistance'

(not "Peace") would be productive of a vast Amt
of good, and who so fit for this work as yourself?
Would it be possible for you, during your present
stay in England, to furnish something likely
to counteract the evil which I am afraid the
enclosed Article will do? Of this indeed I am
extremely doubtful, as I know you must be
closely engaged, and nothing but a sense of the
extreme importance of the subject would have
induced me thus to trespass on your patience.

I could not, however, resist the desire I had, to
make you acquainted, with the projects of
the friends of War as developed in the enclosed,
& I hope that for all the trouble I may thus
have occasioned you, I shall have your pardon.

I am, Dr. Sir,

Yours most respectfully

A sincere well Wisher to the cause

of Universal Freedom.

P.S. I have every reason to believe that J. G. Birney is the
writer of the enclosed article, but as this fact & also that
with respect to the Comittee of the B & F. A.S. Soc'y have come to
my knowledge through a perfectly private channel, I shd
be sorry for them to be made known.

JUL
A 20 M
1840

To/

King William St
PAID

Wm Lloyd Garrison
care of
George Thompson
8 Duncan St
Newington
Edinburgh.

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